In order to achieve the objective of no discrimination in the hours of supply between rural and urban households, the participating States have agreed that they shall ensure that there is no discrimination in supply of power between rural and urban households, in the agreements signed under RGGVY.

**Recommendations of Hoda Committee**

*196. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Committee of Secretaries appointed by the Prime Minister to look into iron ore exports and to consider a level-playing field for integrated steel industry manufacturers in raw material linkages, held its meeting in the month of October, 2006;

(b) if so, whether the Committee will also look after the Hoda Committee's recommendation for allocation of capital mines for such companies;

(c) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(d) what are its main recommendations; and

(e) by when final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (e) On the directions of Prime Minister's Office a Committee was constituted by Cabinet Secretariat on 14.8.2006 to look into the matter of restricting iron ore exports at the current level and progressively reduce it in order to promote industrialization and value addition in the country. The Committee has held four meetings on 25.8.2006,21.9.2006,12.10.2006 and 10.11.2006. The Committee also considered the recommendations of High Level Committee (Hoda Committee) on National Mineral Policy and has submitted its report to the Government on 27th November, 2006. The Report is under consideration of the Government.

**Power projects in Maharashtra**

t*197. SHRI DATTAMEGHE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government have given its approval to some new projects in view of heavy shortage of power in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the number of projects, out of the said projects, to be started in Vidarbha; and

(c) the total power generating capacity of these projects and by when these projects would start generating power in Vidarbha region?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) The Electricity Act 2003 enacted on 10.6.2003, has dispensed with the requirement of techno-economic clearance by Central electricity Authority for establishing thermal generation. However, a generating company intending to set up a hydro-generating station has to prepare and submit the scheme to the Authority for concurrence for projects involving a capital expenditure such sum as may be fixed by the Central Government from time to time by notification.

According to information made available by Maharashtra State Power General Company Ltd., Government of Maharashtra in addition to the ongoing project of Ghatghar Pump Storage (250 MW) has sanctioned generating projects aggregating 2000 MW for commissioning during the Eleventh Plan. The details of these projects are given below:

| Name | Sector | Fuel Type | Likely benefits (MW) | Likely year of benefits |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hydro | | | | |
| Ghatghar PSS | State | HYDRO | 250 | . 2007-08 |
| Thermal | | | | |
| Parli Ext U-2 | State | COAL | 250 | 2008-09 |
| Paras Ext U-2 | State | COAL | 250 | 2009-10 |
| Khaperkheda Ex | State | COAL | 500 | 2010-11 |
| Bhusawal | State | COAL | 1000 | 2010-11 |
| TOTAL | | | 2250 | |

Out of the above projects, Paras TPS expansion project Unit-2 and Khaperkheda TPS extension project are reported to be in Vidharbha Region.